

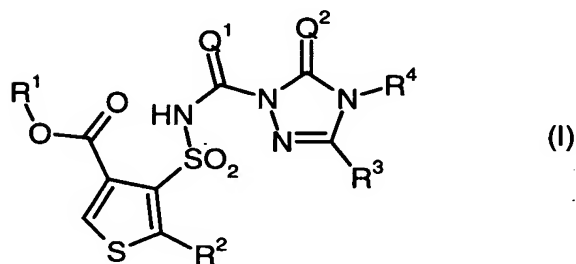
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the application. Please add the following new Claim 29 and amend the pending claims as indicated below.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 Cancelled.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended): A compound of the formula (I)



wherein

Q¹ represents O or S,

Q² represents O or S,

R¹ represents optionally cyano-, halogen- or C₁-C₄-alkoxy-substituted alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, represents in each case optionally cyano- or halogen-substituted alkenyl or alkynyl having in each case 2 to 6 carbon atoms, represents in each case optionally cyano-, halogen- or C₁-C₄-alkyl-substituted cycloalkyl or cycloalkylalkyl having in each case 3 to 6 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl group and optionally 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety, or represents in each case optionally nitro-, cyano-, halogen-, C₁-C₄-alkyl- or C₁-C₄-alkoxy-substituted carbocyclic aryl or arylalkyl having in each case 6 or 10 carbon atoms in the aryl group and optionally 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety,

R² represents fluorine, chlorine, bromine or represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy- or ethoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl,

R³ represents hydrogen, hydroxyl, mercapto, amino, cyano, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, represents optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, bromine-, cyano-, C₁-C₄-alkoxy-, C₁-C₄-alkyl-carbonyl- or C₁-C₄-alkoxy-carbonyl-substituted alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine- and/or bromine-substituted alkenyl or alkynyl having in each case 2 to 6 carbon atoms, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, cyano-, C₁-C₄-alkoxy- or C₁-C₄-alkoxy-carbonyl-substituted alkoxy, alkylthio, alkylamino or alkylcarbonylamino having in each case 1 to 6 carbon atoms in the alkyl group, represents alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, alkenylthio, alkynylthio, alkenylamino or alkynylamino having in each case 3 to 6 carbon atoms in the alkenyl or alkynyl group, represents dialkylamino having in each case 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the alkyl groups, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, bromine-, cyano- and/or C₁-C₄-alkyl-substituted cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, cycloalkyloxy, cycloalkylthio, cycloalkylamino, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylalkoxy, cycloalkylalkylthio or cycloalkylalkylamino having in each case 3 to 6 carbon atoms in the cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl group and optionally 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety, or represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, bromine-, cyano-, nitro-, C₁-C₄-alkyl-, trifluoromethyl-, C₁-C₄-alkoxy- and/or C₁-C₄-alkoxy-carbonyl-substituted carbocyclic aryl, arylalkyl, aryloxy, arylalkoxy, arylthio, arylalkylthio, arylamino or arylalkylamino having in each case 6 or 10 carbon atoms in the aryl group and optionally 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety, and

R⁴ represents hydrogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, represents C₂-C₁₀-alkylidene-amino, represents optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, bromine-, cyano-, C₁-C₄-alkoxy-, C₁-C₄-alkyl-carbonyl- or C₁-C₄-alkoxy-carbonyl-substituted alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine- and/or bromine-substituted alkenyl or alkynyl having in each case 2 to 6 carbon atoms, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-,

bromine-, cyano-, C₁-C₄-alkoxy- or C₁-C₄-alkoxy-carbonyl-substituted alkoxy, alkylamino or alkylcarbonylamino having in each case 1 to 6 carbon atoms in the alkyl group, represents alkenyloxy having 3 to 6 carbon atoms, represents dialkylamino having in each case 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the alkyl groups, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, bromine-, cyano- and/or C₁-C₄-alkyl-substituted cycloalkyl, cycloalkylamino or cycloalkylalkyl having in each case 3 to 6 carbon atoms in the alkyl group and optionally 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety, or represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, bromine-, cyano-, nitro-, C₁-C₄-alkyl-, trifluoromethyl- and/or C₁-C₄-alkoxy-substituted carbocyclic aryl or arylalkyl having in each case 6 or 10 carbon atoms in the aryl group and optionally 1 to 4 carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety, or

~~and a sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, ammonium, C₁-C₄-alkyl-ammonium, di-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-ammonium, tri-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-ammonium, tetra-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-ammonium, tri-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-sulphonium, C₅- or C₆-cycloalkyl-ammonium and di-(C₁-C₂-alkyl)-benzylammonium salt of said compound of the formula (I) or a salt thereof.~~

Claim 3. (Currently Amended): The compound according to Claim 2 wherein

Q¹ represents O or S,

Q² represents O or S,

R¹ represents in each case optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy- or ethoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, n-, i-, s- or t-butyl, represents in each case optionally cyano-, fluorine- or chlorine-substituted propenyl, butenyl, propinyl or butinyl, represents in each case optionally cyano-, fluorine-, chlorine-, methyl- or ethyl-substituted cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopropylmethyl, cyclobutylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl or cyclohexylmethyl, represents in each case optionally cyano-, fluorine-,

chlorine-, bromine-, methyl-, ethyl-, n- or i-propyl-, trifluoromethyl-, methoxy-, ethoxy-, n- or i-propoxy-, difluoromethoxy- or trifluoromethoxy-substituted phenyl, phenylmethyl or phenylethyl,

R² represents fluorine, chlorine, bromine or represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy- or ethoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl,

R³ represents hydrogen, hydroxyl, mercapto, amino, cyano, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, cyano-, methoxy-, ethoxy-, n- or i-propoxy, acetyl-, propionyl-, n- or i-butyryl-, methoxycarbonyl-, ethoxycarbonyl-, n- or i-propoxycarbonyl-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, n-, i-, s- or t-butyl, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine- and/or bromine-substituted ethenyl, propenyl, butenyl, ethinyl, propinyl or butinyl, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, cyano-, methoxy-, ethoxy-, n- or i-propoxy-, methoxycarbonyl-, ethoxycarbonyl-, n- or i-propoxycarbonyl-substituted methoxy, ethoxy, n- or i-propoxy, n-, i-, s- or t-butoxy, methylthio, ethylthio, n- or i-propylthio, n-, i-, s- or t-butylthio, methylamino, ethylamino, n- or i-propylamino, n-, i-, s- or t-butylamino, acetylamino or propionylamino, represents propenyloxy, butenyloxy, ethinyloxy, propinyloxy, butinyloxy, propenylthio, butenylthio, propinylthio, butinylthio, propenylamino, butenylamino, propinylamino or butinylamino, represents dimethylamino, diethylamino or dipropylamino, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, methyl- and/or ethyl-substituted cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentenyl, cyclohexenyl, cyclopropyloxy, cyclobutyloxy, cyclopentyloxy, cyclohexyloxy, cyclopropylthio, cyclobutylthio, cyclopentylthio, cyclohexylthio, cyclopropylamino, cyclobutylamino, cyclopentylamino, cyclohexylamino, cyclopropylmethyl, cyclobutylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexylmethyl, cyclopropylmethoxy, cyclobutylmethoxy, cyclopentylmethoxy, cyclohexylmethoxy, cyclopropylmethylthio, cyclobutylmethylthio, cyclopentylmethylthio, cyclohexylmethylthio, cyclopropylmethylamino, cyclobutylmethylamino, cyclopentylmethylamino or cyclohexylmethylamino, or represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, bromine-, methyl-, trifluoromethyl-, methoxy- or

methoxy-carbonyl-substituted phenyl, benzyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, phenylthio, benzylthio, phenylamino or benzylamino, and

R⁴ represents hydrogen, hydroxyl, amino, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, cyano-, methoxy- or ethoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, n-, i-, s- or t-butyl, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine- and/or bromine-substituted ethenyl, propenyl, butenyl, propinyl or butinyl, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, cyano-, methoxy- or ethoxy-substituted methoxy, ethoxy, n- or i-propoxy, n-, i-, s- or t-butoxy, methylamino, ethylamino, n- or i-propylamino, n-, i-, s- or t-butyl-amino, represents propenyloxy or butenyloxy, represents dimethylamino or diethylamino, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, methyl- and/or ethyl-substituted cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopropylamino, cyclobutylamino, cyclopentylamino, cyclohexylamino, cyclopropylmethyl, cyclobutylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl or cyclohexylmethyl, or represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, methyl-, trifluoromethyl- and/or methoxy-substituted phenyl or benzyl, or

and a salt thereof selected from the group consisting of a sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, ammonium, C₁-C₄-alkyl-ammonium, di-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-ammonium, tri-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-ammonium, tetra-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-ammonium, tri-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-sulphonium, C₅- or C₆-cycloalkyl-ammonium and di-(C₁-C₂-alkyl)-benzylammonium salt of said compound.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended): A compound according to Claim 2 wherein

Q¹ represents O,

Q² represents O,

R¹ represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy- or ethoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl,

R² represents fluorine, chlorine, bromine or represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy- or ethoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl,

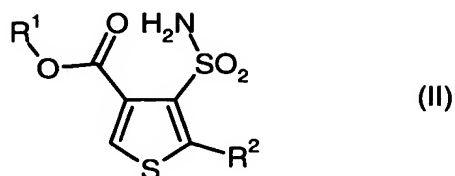
R³ represents hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy-, ethoxy-, n- or i-propoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, represents in each case optionally fluorine- or chlorine-substituted ethenyl, propenyl, butenyl, propinyl or butinyl, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy-, ethoxy-, n- or i-propoxy-substituted methoxy, ethoxy, n- or i-propoxy, methylthio, ethylthio, n- or i-propylthio, methylamino, ethylamino, n- or i-propylamino, represents propenyloxy, propinyloxy, propenylthio, propinylthio, propenylamino or propinylamino, represents dimethylamino or diethylamino, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine- or methyl-substituted cyclopropyl, cyclopropyloxy, cyclopropylmethyl or cyclopropylmethoxy, and

R⁴ represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy- or ethoxy-substituted methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, represents in each case optionally fluorine- or chlorine-substituted ethenyl, propenyl or propinyl, represents in each case optionally fluorine-, chlorine-, methoxy- or ethoxy-substituted methoxy, ethoxy, n- or i-propoxy, represents methylamino, or represents cyclopropyl,

and/or a salt selected from the group consisting of a sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, ammonium, C₁-C₄-alkyl-ammonium, di-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-ammonium, tri-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-ammonium, tetra-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-ammonium, tri-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-sulphonium, C₅- or C₆-cycloalkyl-ammonium and di-(C₁-C₂-alkyl)-benzylammonium salt of said compound.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented): A process for preparing a compound according to Claim 2, comprising the step of:

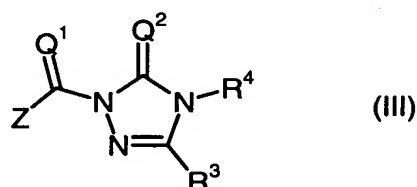
(a) reacting a substituted thiophene-3-sulphonamide of the formula (II)



wherein

R¹ and R² are each as defined in Claim 2

with a substituted triazolin(ethi)one of the formula (III)



wherein

Q¹, Q², R³ and R⁴ are each as defined in Claim 2 and

Z represents halogen, alkoxy, aryloxy or arylalkoxy,

optionally in the presence of an acid binder and optionally in the presence of a diluent,

wherein said reaction is carried out at a temperature of about -20°C and +150°C under a pressure selected from the group consisting of atmospheric pressure, elevated pressure and reduced pressure and wherein, optionally, said reaction mixture is stirred for several hours at said temperature and wherein optionally approximately equimolar amounts of said substituted thiophene-3-sulphonamide of the formula (II) and said substituted triazolin(ethi)one of the formula (III) are reacted in said reaction.

Claim 6 Cancelled.

Claim 7 Cancelled.

Claim 8. (Previously Presented): A method for controlling undesirable vegetation, comprising the step of allowing an effective amount of one or more

compounds according to Claim 2 to act on a member selected from the group consisting of an undesirable plant, a habitat of said undesirable plant and combinations thereof.

Claim 9 Cancelled.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented): An herbicidal composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 2 and a member selected from the group consisting of one or more extenders, one or more surfactants, and combinations thereof.

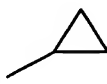
Claim 11. (Previously Presented): The compound of Claim 2 wherein R² is methyl.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented): The compound of Claim 2 wherein Q¹ is oxygen, Q² is oxygen, R¹ is -CH₃, R² is -CH₃, R³ is -OCH₃, and R⁴ is -CH₃.

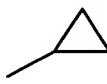
Claim 13. (Previously Presented): The compound of Claim 2 wherein Q¹ is oxygen, Q² is oxygen, R¹ is -CH₃, R² is -CH₃, R³ is -OC₃H_{7-n} and R⁴ is -CH₃.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented): The compound of Claim 2 wherein Q¹ is oxygen, Q² is oxygen, R¹ is -CH₃, R² is -CH₃, R³ is -OC₃H_{7-i} and R⁴ is -CH₃.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented): The compound of Claim 2 wherein Q¹ is

oxygen, Q² is oxygen, R¹ is -CH₃, R² is -CH₃, R³ is -OCH₃ and R⁴ is  .

Claim 16. (Previously Presented): The compound of Claim 2 wherein Q¹ is

oxygen, Q² is oxygen, R¹ is -CH₃, R² is -CH₃, R³ is -OC₃H_{7-n} and R⁴ is  .

Claim 17. (Previously Presented): The compound of Claim 2 wherein Q¹ is oxygen, Q² is oxygen, R¹ is -CH₃, R² is -CH₃, R³ is -CH₃ and R⁴ is -CH₃.

Claim 18.(Previously Presented): The compound of Claim 2 wherein Q¹ is oxygen, Q² is oxygen, R¹ is -CH₃, R² is -CH₃, R³ is -C₂H₅ and R⁴ is -CH₃.

Claim 19.(Previously Presented): The compound of Claim 2 wherein Q¹ is oxygen, Q² is oxygen, R¹ is -CH₃, R² is -CH₃, R³ is -SCH₃ and R⁴ is -CH₃.

Claim 20. (Previously Presented): An herbicidal composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 11 and a member selected from the group consisting of one or more extenders, one or more surfactants, and combinations thereof.

Claim 21. (Previously Presented): An herbicidal composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 12 and a member selected from the group consisting of one or more extenders, one or more surfactants, and combinations thereof.

Claim 22. (Previously Presented): An herbicidal composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 13 and a member selected from the group consisting of one or more extenders, one or more surfactants, and combinations thereof.

Claim 23. (Previously Presented): An herbicidal composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 14 and a member selected from the group consisting of one or more extenders, one or more surfactants, and combinations thereof.

Claim 24. (Previously Presented): An herbicidal composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 15 and a member selected from the group consisting of one or more extenders, one or more surfactants, and combinations thereof.

Claim 25. (Previously Presented): An herbicidal composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 16 and a member selected from the group

consisting of one or more extenders, one or more surfactants, and combinations thereof.

Claim 26. (Previously Presented): An herbicidal composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 17 and a member selected from the group consisting of one or more extenders, one or more surfactants, and combinations thereof.

Claim 27. (Previously Presented): An herbicidal composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 18 and a member selected from the group consisting of one or more extenders, one or more surfactants, and combinations thereof.

Claim 28. (Previously Presented): An herbicidal composition comprising one or more compounds according to Claim 19 and a member selected from the group consisting of one or more extenders, one or more surfactants, and combinations thereof.

Claim 29. (New) The compound of Claim 2 wherein said salt of said compound of the formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of a sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, ammonium, C₁-C₄-alkyl-ammonium, di-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-ammonium, tri-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-ammonium, tetra-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-ammonium, tri-(C₁-C₄-alkyl)-sulphonium, C₅- or C₆-cycloalkyl-ammonium and di-(C₁-C₂-alkyl)-benzylammonium salt of said compound of the formula (I).